

WASHINGTON STAR (GREEN LINE)

5 NOVEMBER 1975

Church Says He'll Vote To Close Door on Bush

Politics, CIA Don't Mix, Prober Warns

By Norman Kempster
Washington Star Staff Writer

The chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee says that he will vote against confirming George Bush as CIA director because the job is not one that should go to a former political party chairman.

"It used to be the custom of presidents to appoint former chairman of political parties as postmaster general," Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, said. "That was done because the postmaster's office was the most political and the least sensitive of all agencies."

"President Ford has turned that custom on its head and appointed a former chairman of the Republican committee to the least political and most sensitive agency in the government," he said.

BUSH, NAMED Monday by Ford to succeed William E. Colby, served as Republican national chairman from December 1972 to September 1974.

In a press conference yesterday Church also said the committee's report, to be issued later this month, will show that former President Richard M. Nixon personally ordered the CIA to undermine the government of Marxist President Salvador Allende in Chile.

Allende died in the military coup that toppled his government.

But Church said the report also will indicate that at times the CIA acted without specific approval of the White House.

"There is much evidence in the report that will bear out that at times the agency has behaved in ways that might well have exceeded its authority," Church said. "At other times, as in the Chilean case, it was operating clearly at the president's direction."

ON ANOTHER subject, Church made public a letter from FBI Director Clarence Kelley which said an FBI investigation turned up no evidence that the Soviet KGB had infiltrated any congressional staff. Several lawmakers, including Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield, requested the investigation after hearing rumors of KGB activity on Capitol Hill.

The House Intelligence Committee, meanwhile, shied away from a confrontation with Henry A. Kissinger, agreeing to a "compromise" that removes the threat of a contempt of Congress citation against the secretary of state.

Chairman Otis G. Pike, D-N.Y., in a mild rebuke, suggested that a majority of the committee seemed to be afraid to challenge Kissinger to a test of strength.

"I FEAR that there has been a conclusion on the part of a number of our members that this isn't the right man to go after," Pike said. He noted that the committee had been prepared to charge fired CIA Director William E. Colby with contempt of Congress until he backed down and supplied documents the panel had demanded.

In the case of Kissinger, the committee agreed to accept what could be called a "naked came the memo" substitute for a report critical of U.S. policy in Cyprus which was written by Thomas D. Boyatt, the State Department's chief of Cypriot affairs at the time of last year's coup in the island republic.

KISSINGER SAID he would supply the panel with an "amalgam" of internal reports on Cyprus with paragraphs of the Boyatt memo interspersed among passages from other documents, a technique reminiscent of the literary spoof "Naked Came the Stranger."

None of the authors would be identified.

"We have subpoenaed a document; we are offered a puzzle," Pike said.

But by an 8-5 vote, with four Democrats joining four Republicans in opposing five Democrats, the committee accepted the Kissinger plan.

The committee had subpoenaed the actual Boyatt memo. If the panel had rejected Kissinger's compromise proposal, the next step would have been to cite the secretary for contempt of Congress and urge the House to back up that position.

Rep. Les Aspin, D-Wis., said the committee would get the information it sought under the compromise. He said the full House would consider "trivial" for the committee to try to enforce the letter of its subpoena.

THE BOYATT memo was made of symbolic importance. Kissinger implied he was ready to fight the issue out in court if the committee refused to accept his proposal for compromise. Some members of the committee were anxious to attempt to test Kissinger's substantial power. But more members were clearly unwilling to take that step.

The original subpoena for the memo was issued Oct. 1 as part of the committee's investigation of the performance of intelligence agencies in the Cyprus crisis.

The Greek-led coup that toppled Archbishop Makarios from the presidency of Cyprus took U.S. policymakers by surprise. The committee staff said Boyatt's postmortem memo would help the committee determine what went wrong.